

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 ACDA-07 AID-05 OMB-01 SY-05

SCCT-01 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /101 W

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R 131341Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2114

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L CONAKRY 1388

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT GV

SUBJ: SEKOU TOURE ONCE MORE ACCUSES SENEGAL AND IVORY COAST OF
PLOTING AGAINST HIM

REF: A CONAKRY 1386 B CONAKRY 1330

1. SUMMARY. AT OPENING SESSION OF NATIONAL REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL (CNR) ON JULY 12, SEKOU TOURE MADE SOME MORE BROAD BUT STILL UNSPECIFIED CHARGES OF ANTI-REGIME PLOTING BY HOUPHOUT-BOIGNY AND SENGHOR, PARTICULARLY FORMER. TOURE INDICATED THAT "PLOTTERS" AND "MERCENARIES," WHO HAVE BEEN UNDER "INTERROGATION" IN GUINEA'S BULGING POLITICAL PRISONS FOR AS LONG AS SIX WEEKS, WOULD BE PRODUCED BEFORE FULL CNR IN ITS CLOSING SESSIONS TO MAKE PUBLIC CONFESSIONS. IT MAY BE THAT CNR, HIGHEST ORGAN OF GUINEA'S PARTY-STATE, WILL BE TURNED INTO KANGAROO COURT TO JUDGE AND SENTENCE THE "PLOTTERS." JUDGEMENT PROMISES TO BE HARSH. END SUMMARY

2. TOURE'S OPENING SPEECH COVERED ALL ITEMS ON CNR AGENDA (MAINLY IN GENERAL FIELD OF AGRICULTURE AND
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ECONOMY) AND LEFT FINAL AGENDA ITEM, DEFINED ROUGHLY

AS "IMPERIALIST CONSPIRACY AGAINST AFRICA AND THE FIFTH COLUMN," UNTIL END. WHILE PRESIDENT GAVE NO HINT THAT CHARGES WILL BE LEVELED AGAINST ANY EUROPEAN POWER (OR AGAINST US), HE ONCE MORE ACCUSED "IMPERIALST PUPPETS" AND "OLD FOXES" SENGHOR AND HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY OF PLOTTING AGAINST GUINEAN REGIME. TOURE BEGAN THIS PORTION OF SPEECH BY CITING HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY'S PUBLIC DENIAL THAT ANTI-TOURE MERCENARIES WERE BEING TRAINED IN IVORY COAST. HE SAID HE WOULD NOT ANSWER HOUPHOUET DIRECTLY, BUT WOULD LET ACCUSED PLOTTERS THEMSELVES ANSWER HIM BEFORE CNR. HE ALSO HINTED THAT INVASION ATTEMPT AGAINST GUINEA FROM IVORY COAST WAS PART OF PLOT, AND THAT IT WAS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE "IN A FEW DAYS."

3. COMMENT: THIS BIZARRE AFFAIR HAS BEEN BUILDING UP SINCE ALLEGED ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT ON TOURE ON MAY 13. TOURE DID NOT EVEN ANNOUNCE THE PLOT UNTIL JUNE 4, AND MANY OBSERVERS HAD IMPRESSION AT TIME THAT STORY WAS FABRICATED OUT OF WHOLE CLOTH(THOUGH IT IS NOW GENERALLY ACCEPTED THAT THERE WAS INDEED SOME KIND OF PLANNED ATTEMPT ON HIS LIFE). AT FIRST THERE WERE NO ALLEGATIONS OF FOREIGN COMPLICITY, CHARGES AGAINST SENEGAL AND IVORY COAST WERE ANNOUNCED JUNE 22. MUCH-HERALDED "REVELATIONS" AT OPENING OF CNR DID NOT AMOUNT TO VERY MUCH, ALTHOUGH MORE COULD COME LATER IN SESSION. IF TOURE IS TRYING TO EXCITE GUINEAN PEOPLE AGAIST FOEIGN "DEVILS," HE SEEMS ONLY PARTLY SUCCESSFUL. OUR GUINEAN CONTACTS, NOT SURPRISINGLY, ARE LOATHE TO TALK ABOUT WHAT IS GOING ON, IF THEY INDEED KNOW. WE SENSE GENERAL FEELING OF APATHY. HARROP

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